

Serial No. 10/510,566
Docket No. 2539LN.ch

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REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-21 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10-14 and 16-21 have been merely amended for clarity. Claim 15 has been canceled without prejudice of disclaimer.

Entry of this Amendment is believed proper since no new issues are being presented to the Examiner, which would require further consideration and/or search.

Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3, 6, 11, 14, 18, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohhashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,556,815; hereinafter "Ohhashi"). Claims 4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohhashi.

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention (e.g., as defined by exemplary claim 1) is directed to a device in a nozzle for monitoring and/or regulating of gas or liquid occurring in one or more ducts in the nozzle, or mixtures of gases, mixtures of liquids, and mixtures of liquids and gases in a spray gun for a painting plant.

The device includes a pressure indicator mounted at an end of the one or more ducts in a channel which is intended for the gas or liquid or mixture which is to be monitored and/or regulated, the pressure indicator being connected to an electronic circuit for generating a signal corresponding to the pressure prevailing in the duct, wherein the electronic circuit is connected to a circuit for regulating one or more valves for adjusting the measured pressure to a desired value (e.g., see

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Application at page 3, line 20 through page 4, line 25). Accordingly, the device of the claimed invention can easily monitor, regulate and control the output of a nozzle (e.g., see Application at page 2, lines 4-15).

II. THE INDEFINITESS REJECTION

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Applicant has reviewed all of claims 1-21 and has editorially amended the claims as provided in the above claim amendments. Applicant has addressed each of the specific issues raised by the Examiner and has reviewed the complete language of claims 1-21 to address any claim language issues not addressed by the Examiner.

Applicant maintains that claims 1-21 were definite as previously claimed. The claims have been amended above for further clarity. Applicant submits that claims 1-21 are clearly definite. If the Examiner is not satisfied with the above claim amendments, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide suggestions for how the Examiner would like the claims to read.

Moreover, with respect to claim 4, Applicant does not understand the Examiner's rejection. Specifically, Applicant maintains that the phrase "for executing thousands of measurements per second" is definite. If the Examiner wishes to maintain this rejection, the Examiner is requested to more clearly set forth his rejection and specifically point out what is allegedly indefinite in the claim language.

With respect to claim 6, Applicant points out that the feature of "peripheral equipment" has not been positively recited as a feature of the claimed invention. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn.

Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

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III. THE PRIOR ART REFERENCE

The Examiner alleges that Ohhashi teaches the claimed invention of claims 1, 3, 6, 11, 14, 18, and 21. Furthermore, the Examiner alleges that the claimed invention of claims 4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 20 would have been obvious in view of Ohhashi. Applicant submits, however, that there are elements of the claimed invention which are neither taught nor suggested by Ohhashi.

That is, Ohhashi does not teach or suggest *"a pressure indicator mounted at an end of said one or more ducts in a channel which is intended for the gas or liquid or mixtures of gases, or mixtures of liquids, or mixtures of gas and liquids which is to be monitored and/or regulated, the pressure indicator being connected to an electronic circuit for generating a signal corresponding to the pressure prevailing in the duct"*, as recited in claim 1.

Ohhashi merely discloses that an orifice type flat ejection nozzle tip 10 is fixedly secured in a liquid-tight condition to a holder 6, and on the back side of the nozzle tip 10 is provided a groove disturbance plate 11 in a press-contact condition by treadedly inserting a mounting member 12 (see column 2, lines 1-5 and Figures 1 and 3 of Ohhashi). A pressure sensor 20 is fixedly mounted on the inside of the support 9 in a chamber surrounding the grooved disturbance plate 11 at the inner end of the nozzle tip 10 having an ejection port 10a at the outer end or end opposite the grooved disturbance plate 11. The pressure sensor 20 is provided at a stop transfer of article 1 at an abnormal pressure condition in the chamber around the grooved disturbance plate 11.

Ohhashi, however, does not teach or suggest a pressure sensor in the duct of the nozzle tip 10 extending between the ejection port 10a and the input covered by the grooved disturbance plate 11. Furthermore, the pressure sensor 20 of Ohhashi is not located in the duct of the nozzle tip 10 extending between the ejection port 10a and the input covered by the grooved disturbance plate 11.

Therefore, Applicant submits that there are elements of the claimed invention that are not taught or suggested (nor made obvious) by Ohhashi. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

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IV. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

With respect to the Examiner's objection, Applicant submits that each of the claimed features is clearly illustrated in the Drawings. However, Applicant submits herewith an amended Figure 9 illustrating the battery section. No new matter has been added.

However, Applicant maintains that Figure 9 of the Application clearly illustrates the circuit for regulating one more valves for adjusting the measured pressure (e.g., 19) connected to the electronic circuit (e.g., see Application at page 4, lines 14-18).

The Examiner's comments in the Response to Arguments are not clear. If the Examiner wishes to maintain this rejection, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to clarify his remarks in response to Applicant's arguments.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this objection.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-14 and 16-21, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: July 3, 2007

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I hereby certify that I am filing this paper via facsimile, to Group Art Unit 3752, at (571) 273-8300, on July 3, 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: July 3, 2007

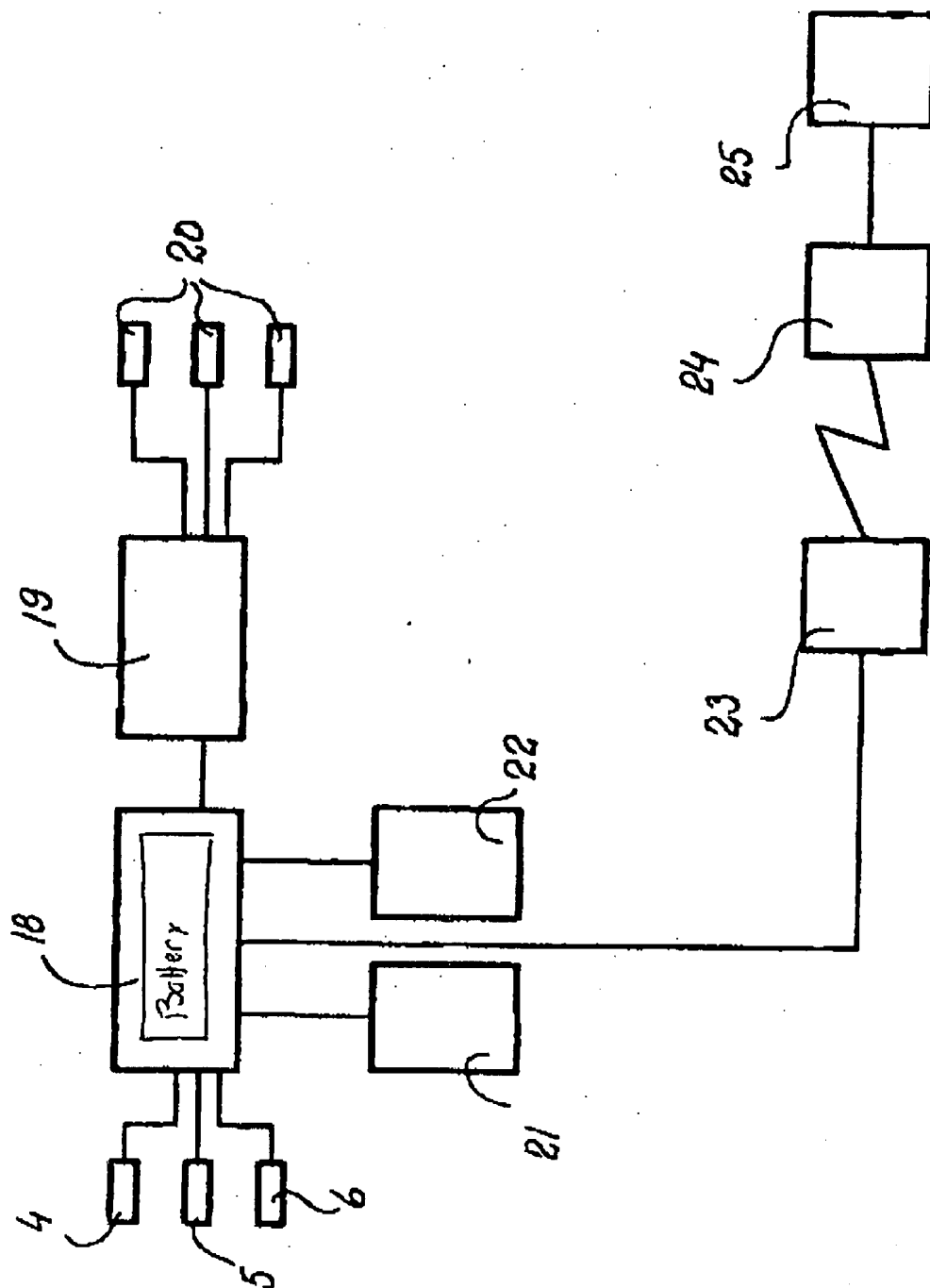
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Annotated Sheet
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